



Roinn nan Cànan  
Languages Department  
Sprachabteilung

# COURSE INFORMATION

## Gaelic Learners, National 5

The aim of the course is to encourage communicative competence in Gaelic.

The course will consist of two sections:

- Understanding Language
- Using Language

Pupils will develop the skills of **Listening and Talking** and **Reading and Writing** which will allow them to:

- **understand** written and spoken Gaelic within a range of specified contexts: **Society, Learning, Culture and Employability**,
- **apply and adapt** familiar language in written and spoken Gaelic to make themselves readily understood,
- demonstrate language skills by means of an externally assessed paper.

Assessment:

- This course will be formally assessed by means of external examinations set by SQA in the skills of Listening, Reading and Writing.
- In addition, the course assessment for Talking will be assessed through individual presentations of a chosen topic followed by questions. This will be conducted by teaching staff and is subject to verification by SQA. Finally, candidates will produce a piece of writing in class which will be done under exam conditions and marked externally by SQA.
- Regular formative assessment will continue.
- Talking will be assessed through role play/transactional tasks/group discussions and/or through conversations between pupil and teacher.
- Reading and Listening will be assessed through pupils' responses to written and spoken texts in Gaelic.
- Writing will be assessed regularly with pupils preparing a selection of pieces which may include reports/ reviews and/or informative texts such as e-mails or contributions for a web-page.

# Assessment Summary

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## Course Assessment (Exam) – 120 marks

*(2 Exams – totalling 70 marks)*

### Paper 1: Reading and Writing *[1 hour and 30 minutes, 50 marks]*

Reading:

- Read three Gaelic text and answer questions in English - 30 marks
- Dictionary permitted

Writing:

- Write a job application
- There are 20 marks available and a dictionary is permitted.

### Paper 2: Listening *[25 minutes, 20 marks]*

Listening:

- Listen to a short monologue in Gaelic and answer questions in English – 8 marks
- Listening to a conversation and answer questions in English – 12 marks

### Talking Exam – *30 marks*

- Candidates will prepare a presentation on a topic of their choice. The presentation is worth a maximum of 10 marks
- Candidates will then engage in a follow-up conversation based on the presentation. The conversation is worth a maximum 20 marks.
- The exam will last approximately 8 minutes.

### Assignment – Writing – *20 marks*

- Candidates must produce one piece of writing (120-200 words) based on one of the following contexts: Society, Learning or Culture.
- The piece of writing will be submitted to SQA in March for marking.

**Candidates who are not going to sit the exam may achieve individual units. These units are assessed internally and marked on a pass/fail basis. *There are four internal unit assessments in total.***

<b>Understanding Language</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One Reading Assessment</li><li>• One Listening Assessment</li></ul>	<b>Using Language</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One Writing Assessment</li><li>• One Talking Assessment</li></ul>
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## Progression Pathway:

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Pupils who attain a National 5 award at Grade A or B should be able to advance to Higher. Pupils are encouraged to discuss their progress with the Languages' Department.

## Resources:

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- Pupils have access to core vocabulary and notes in the form of booklets linked to a range of topic.
- Audio files to assist with the learning of vocabulary are also available online.
- Links to useful websites are shared with pupils. Such as [LearnGaelic](#)
- Traditional dictionaries and grammar reference books are supplemented by online versions.
- Access to a range of websites allows up-to-date topics to be studied for personal interest and enjoyment e.g. current stories in the news.
- The invaluable resources all around in the community i.e. speakers of the language.
- BBC Bitesize has been updated in line with National Courses.
- Valuable educational material available on [www.bbc.co.uk/alba](http://www.bbc.co.uk/alba).
- Free access to Gaelic as is spoken by proficient speakers of the language is available through the Gaelic television channel BBC Alba and Radio nan Gàidheal.

## Hints for success:

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- Regular learning, revising and applying of key points of vocabulary and grammar is essential in order to make progress in any language.
- Regular completion of homework of all kinds is essential.
- Recognition of the invaluable resources available in the community i.e. speakers of the language.